

Production of atomic power

1640. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the World War II and after obtaining independence in 1947 A.D., India is at the mercy of the powerful countries in the matter of atomic power/energy;

(b) if not, the details of the atomic power/energy produced by India herself and expected;

(c) how India has been successful to get atomic power/energy from USA, France, Israel, Germany, Japan during the last 30 years to become self-dependent; and

(d) if not, how this problem is expected to be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) India is pursuing a self-reliant three-stage nuclear power programme based on indigenous nuclear resources. As a part of first stage programme, fourteen Pressurised Heavy Water reactors with a cumulative capacity of 3580 MWe are in operation and four such reactors are in an advanced stage of construction. Construction has also started on one 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder reactor of the second stage of the nuclear power programme. In addition to the indigenous programme, reactors based on imports have also been set up as additionalities. Two such reactors are in operation since 1969 and two more 1000 MWe reactors are under construction, being set up in technical cooperation with the Russian Federation. More reactors, based on both indigenous designs and imports, if available, are planned in future, to increase the nuclear power capacity in the country.

Protest against not filling sands

†1641. SHRI RUDRANARAYAN PANY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agitation has been staged recently in protest against

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.